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THURSDAY
APRIL 22, 1954

I brought Carrie and Macgill down town this morning and dispatched them on a museum tour.

Joe Kingsbury Smith came to the office and talked about the Geneva Conference. I told him I was not familiar with U. S. policy on this subject except as I read comments on it in the newspapers.

Benjie and Ridge Knight and the Jameses lunched with me. To my sorrow and loss, Ridge takes up his Berlin post next Monday, so this was something in the nature of a farewell. We had Ch. Latour 1918 and Ch. Cheval Blanc 1929 -- both were in splendid condition and induced a similar feeling in ourselves.

I was called during lunch, on the Secretary's instructions, by Doug MacArthur, who said Bidault had told Dulles this morning the Socialists had broken out of line and the jig was up with the EDC. I said I thought this was a great exaggeration but would investigate the matter at once. I tried to see Guy Mollet but found he was presiding over a conference at the Luxembourg Palace. I sent Ridge Knight over to see him, and Mollet, as I expected, gave him reassurances. I talked both to Alphand and de Staercke on the telephone about this affair. De Staercke is doing everything possible to have Spaak sworn in as Foreign Minister tomorrow morning so he can attend the meeting of NATO tomorrow afternoon and talk to Dulles.

I asked Van Helmont to come and see me. He says the French Government has double-crossed the Socialist Party in not having issued an official communiqué confirmatory of the understanding which apparently had been reached between Bidault and Mollet. Bidault's own reaction was satisfactory; he asserted his intention to obtain Laniel's assent and Cabinet confirmation for the necessary steps. Maurice Schumann, on Friday or Saturday of last week, telephoned Mollet

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